

RHODE ISLAND

Consumer Sentinel Complaint Statistics and Trends

January 1 - December 31, 2002

Total Number of Fraud and Identity Theft Complaints from Rhode Island Consumers = 1,059



Fraud Complaints from Rhode Island Consumers = 648

Top Fraud Complaint Categories for Rhode Island Consumers

Rank	Top Categories	Complaints	Percentage ¹
1	Internet Auctions	172	27%
2	Advance-Fee Loans and Credit Protection/Repair	81	13%
3	Prizes/Sweepstakes and Lotteries	77	12%
4	Internet Services and Computer Complaints	67	10%
5	Shop-at-Home/Catalog Sales	60	9%

¹Percentages are based on the total number of fraud complaints from Rhode Island consumers (648).

Amount Paid Reported by Rhode Island Consumers

Total No. of Complaints	Total Amount Paid Reported	Total Complaints Reporting Amt Pd	Percentage of Complaints Reporting Amount Paid	Average Amount Paid ²
648	\$467,268	529	82%	\$883

²Average amount paid is based on the total number of fraud complaints where amount paid was reported by Rhode Island consumers (529).

Top Rhode Island Consumer Locations for Fraud Complaints

Consumer City	No. of Complaints
Providence	133
Warwick	76
Cranston	42
Pawtucket	35
Woonsocket	25



Identity Theft Complaints from Rhode Island Victims = 411

Identity Theft Types Reported by Rhode Island Victims

Rank	Identity Theft Type	No. of Victims	Percentage ¹
1	Credit Card Fraud	194	47%
2	Phone or Utilities Fraud	89	22%
3	Bank Fraud	50	12%
4	Employment-Related Fraud	26	6%
5	Loan Fraud	21	5%
6	Government Documents or Benefits Fraud	18	4%
	Other	63	15%
	Attempted Identity Theft	45	11%

¹Percentages are based on the 411 victims reporting from Rhode Island. Percentages add to more than 100 because approximately 19% of victims from Rhode Island reported experiencing more than one type of identity theft.

Top Rhode Island Identity Theft Victim Locations

Victim City	No. of Victims
Providence	88
Warwick	50
Cranston	23
Cumberland	22
Pawtucket	22